**Activity: Doorways to waste**

**Activity Introduction**

**[](http://coolaustralia.org/activity/doorways-to-waste/waste-rubbish-dump-hero-16/)Quick summary:** Students are asked to consider how waste patterns have changes over time and complete a colouring-in worksheet that shows the changes in the ways that people have used materials and disposed of their waste over the past 400 years. They will also be asked to predict what life might be like in the year 2050 and what waste disposal methods will be available then.

**Learning goals:**

* Students learn that Australian Aboriginals lived very lightly on the land, using natural materials for their tools, clothing, shelters and weapons.
* Students discover that since European settlement, people in Australia have used increasing amounts of resources to support their lifestyle and have been producing increasing quantities of solid waste.
* Students will understand that the way that Australians dispose of their waste has changed dramatically over the past 60 or so years.

**Australian Curriculum content descriptions:**

**Year 3 Science**

* Science involves making predictions and describing patterns and relationships [(ACSHE050)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Curriculum/ContentDescription/ACSHE050)

**Year 3 History**

* Sequence historical people and events [(ACHHS065)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/History/Curriculum/F-10#level=3)
* Pose a range of questions about the past [(ACHHS067)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/History/Curriculum/F-10#level=3)

**Year 4 Science**

* Science involves making predictions and describing patterns and relationships[(ACSHE061)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Curriculum/ContentDescription/ACSHE061)

**Year 4 History**

* Sequence historical people and events [(ACHHS081)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/History/Curriculum/F-10#level=4)
* Pose a range of questions about the past [(ACHHS083)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/History/Curriculum/F-10#level=4)

**Year 4 Geography**

* The natural resources provided by the environment, and different views on how they could be used sustainably [(ACHGK024)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Geography/Curriculum/F-10#level=4)
* The sustainable management of waste from production and consumption [(ACHGK025)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Geography/Curriculum/F-10#level=4)

**Topic:** Solid**w**aste

**Time required:** 48 mins

**Level of teacher scaffolding:** Medium – gather materials, copy worksheets for students**.**

**Resources required:** scissors, pencils, pens, glue, copy of *Doorways to waste: Student Worksheet* for each student**.**

**Digital technology opportunities:**

**Homework and extension opportunities:** This activity includes opportunities for extension and homework.

**Keywords:** Waste, history, future, Aboriginal Australians.